

9 FAM PART IV Appendix C, KOREA, SOUTH

(TL:VISA-301; 07-30-2001)

RECIPROCITY

(TL:VISA-301; 07-30-2001)

Class	Fee	No. Applications	Validity Period
A-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
A-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
A-3 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
B-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
B-1/B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
C-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
C-1/D	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
C-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
C-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
D	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
E-1 [2]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
E-2 [2]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
F-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
F-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-5 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
H-1B	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
H-1C	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
H-2A	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
H-2B	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
H-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
H-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
I	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
J-1 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
J-2 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
K-1	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
K-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
L-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
L-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
M-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
M-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
N-8	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
N-9	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
NATO 1-7	N/A	N/A	N/A
O-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
O-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
O-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]

P-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
P-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
P-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
P-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS [3]
Q-1 [6]	NONE	MULTIPLE	15 MONTHS [3]
R-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
R-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
S-5 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-6 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-7 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
TD [5]	N/A	N/A	N/A
V-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
V-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]
V-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]

SPECIAL CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

(TL:VISA-232; 01-29-2001)

Posts with CLASS capability should not send IV clearance requests to Seoul unless a CLASS check indicates derogatory information on file there.

When requesting clearances, posts should provide DOBs, birth names, and KID numbers, where available. The KID number is located on the right side of the DOB on the data page of Korean passports issued in Korea, but not on passports issued elsewhere.

NOTE: KID numbers for males begin with "1" and KID numbers for females begin with "2". If the KID number is not available from the passport, then the name and DOB will suffice.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

Police Record

(TL:VISA-236; 02-06-2001)

Available, but of limited value, and cannot be treated as completely reliable. Users of the Korean National Police Clearance (KNPC) should bear in mind that the KNPC cannot include derogatory information essential to determining visa eligibility. This is due to the enactment in 1980 of legislation calling for the routine expungement from official records of data regarding crimes and convictions. Such expungement occurs at stipulated periods of time after sentences have been served according to the severity of the crime committed and the punishment meted out. The KNPC is available for both Koreans and non-Koreans, but with some restrictions, and not always available for people who resided in Korea before 1945. The

Korean National Police will not issue a police record to an individual; therefore, applicants should submit their requests for police records (Form SEO-11) to the consular section which is processing their immigrant visa application. The request for police records should then be forwarded by the IV processing section to the consular section at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

Korean nationals residing in Korea also need to complete and submit two copies of Form SEO-11 with two photographs, 4 cm. x 4 cm., and must attach one copy each of their Family Census Register (FCR) (Hojeokdeungbon) and Residence Register (Jumindeungnok Deungbon) issued within the last three months. Married women must attach the original FCR and a photocopy of their passport identity page. Other nationals must enclose a photocopy of their passport identity page. It takes approximately three weeks for Korean authorities to process a request for a police record.

Court Record

(TL:VISA-127; 10-13-1995)

Available. Records of court judgments are maintained at the Records Section of the District Public Prosecutor's Office. A certified copy of judgment (Pangyulmoon) may be issued either to Koreans or non-Koreans upon application in person or by letter. The application must include full name, date of birth, permanent legal domicile, date of conviction, place of conviction and the purpose for which the copy of the court judgment is required.

Military Record

(TL:VISA-127; 10-13-1995)

Unavailable.

Birth, Marriage, Divorce and Other Records

(TL:VISA-232; 01-29-2001)

Available. Family Register (Hojuk-Deong-Bon) is the official public record of a Korean citizen. The Family Register contains records of birth, marriage, divorce, adoption, death, etc. The Family Register may be obtained from Korean Government offices (Ku-Chong in urban areas, Up-Samooso and Myon-Samooso in suburban areas). There may be a fee for these services. Mail-in applications should include return postage.

In case a person is unable to obtain a certified copy of the Family Register because of the birth place where the original Family Register is kept is in North Korea, or because the applicant is an orphan, a so-called Provisional Family Register should be established. This is done by submitting an application to the Mayor's office or Office of Township of present residence (or of last address in Korea, if applying outside of Korea) and by obtaining certified copies of the Provisional Family Register. At the request of an applicant, this procedure is ordinarily handled through a notary public authorized to handle such legal proceedings. The notaries' lists are available at Ward Offices (Koo-Chong) and District Courts. If unable to correspond in Korean, the applicant may wish to seek the help of an English-speaking lawyer in Korea, listed in the Consular Section, U.S. Embassy, Unit #15550, APO AP 96205-0001.

Adoption Certificate

(TL:VISA-232; 01-29-2001)

Available. A court certificate of adoption may be obtained from the district court having jurisdiction over the adopted child's residence of record in Korea. The child's family register is required, containing full details of the adoption, including full names, dates and places of birth of the adoptive parents of the adopted person, and of the natural parents of the adopted person, if known.

Passports: Information on Travel Documents

(TL:VISA-232; 01-29-2001)

The Korean government began issuing machine-readable passports on January 1, 1994. However, the old version of the Korean passport will continue to be issued at Korean Consulates until supplies are exhausted. The new passport is valid for an initial five-year period; it is extendible for an additional five years.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises us that they issue passports according to the following guidelines:

(1) Twelve month validity or less: Koreans may carry a limited validity passport for one of several reasons and it is impossible to ascertain the reason for the limited validity by examining the passport book itself. Reasons for the issuance of limited passports include:

(a) Self-Choice: Applicants who wish to avoid the W45,000 fee for full validity can chose a one year passport, which costs only W15,000 (as of January 1998). This is the "PS" type passport and contains eight pages.

(b) Pending Court Action: The Korean National Police can stipulate a one year passport be issued to persons under investigation or persons whose mandatory police clearance is pending for any reason. In the most serious cases, the Police can request that no passport be issued. In cases where passport applicants are involved in a pending court action, they must request permission from the public prosecutor's office to receive a passport.

(c) Conscription: Korea has nearly universal conscription. Draft-age males may not be issued a passport at all, or may be issued passports of varying limited validities. Embassy Seoul was advised in early 1998 that Korean males born between 1981 and 1985 will routinely be issued limited validity passports (with expiration dates as close as 31DEC98 or as distant as 31DEC2002). Males born earlier than 1981 who have not completed their military obligation or who are not otherwise ineligible for service, must seek special permission from the Manpower Recruitment Administration [Byongmuchung] for passport issuance. If granted, the validity of the limited passport will vary from case to case. The six month validity passport described in earlier Transmittal Letters (TL) of Appendix C is no longer used, having been replaced by the sliding scale system described above.

(2) Five year validity: This 42-page passport is the standard Korean issue; its type is "PM". The "PR" or "R" version of this is used for emigration to other countries and as a replacement to Koreans already resident abroad. Although the five-year validity is the norm, males between 13 and 17 years of age are not given a passport with validity beyond December 31st of the year when they turn 17. This is done to keep track of them for military conscription purposes. There are also "PO" (official) and "PD" (diplomatic) passports issued.

(3) Other Unusual Validity: In some cases you will see the validity set at an arbitrary number of months and a stamp on page five of the passport to restrict extensions. If this is the passport of a male, ages 18-22, it may have something to do with pending military service. In all other cases, this kind of passport notation may indicate a false DOB or KID number. The restriction resulted from the routine police check being unable to identify the applicant. When the police finally match the applicant to his record, it usually, but not always, turns out that he has a criminal record. These cases should be sent to Cons and/or INV Seoul for investigation.

VISA ISSUING POST

(TL:VISA-127; 10-13-1995)

Seoul (E) All Categories

Address: APO AP 96205-9600

GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERVICED

(TL:VISA-232; 01-29-2001)

All of Korea.